

- **Fixed penalty notices** – on-the-spot fines of up to £80 issued by police, community support or council enforcement officers to anyone causing anti-social behaviour.
- **Diversions activities** – set up by councils and other organisations to keep young people out of trouble, including sports, arts, crafts and music.

How to contact your local council





- Ashford **01233 331111**
- Canterbury **01227 862000**
- Dartford **01322 343434**
- Dover **01304 821199**
- Gravesham **01474 564422**
- Maidstone **01622 602000**
- Medway **01634 306000**
- Sevenoaks **01732 227000**
- Shepway **01303 853000**
- Swale **01795 417850**
- Thanet **01843 577000**
- Tonbridge and Malling **01732 844522**
- Tunbridge Wells **01892 526121**

Other useful contacts

- Reporting untaxed vehicles **www.direct.gov.uk/untaxedvehicle**
- Local Victim Support **0845 3899 528** or **www.victimsupport.org.uk**
- Free phone 24hr National Domestic Violence Helpline **0808 2000 247**

Contact us

Report a crime:

-  Call **101** to report a non-urgent crime or to contact your local officer
-  Call **999** if a crime is in progress or life is in danger
-  If you are deaf or speech-impaired, text 'police' and your message to **60066**
-  Visit your nearest police front counter to report non-urgent crime

News, information and advice:

-  Speak to an officer – at a police surgery, at a front counter or by calling **101**
-  Visit our website – **www.kent.police.uk**
-  Follow **@kent_police** or your district account on Twitter
-  Find us on **Facebook**
-  Chat to officers online – **www.kent.police.uk/onlinemeeting**
-  Sign up for your fortnightly district e newsletters – **www.kent.police.uk/enews**

For details of all the ways to contact us, visit **www.kent.police.uk/contactus**

For other information guides in this series, visit **www.kent.police.uk/yourguide**



Kent Police

Anti-social behaviour



Your guide to dealing with nuisance behaviour



Kent Police

Anti-social behaviour is any behaviour that causes harassment, alarm or distress and affects other people's quality of life.

Who deals with anti-social behaviour?

Your **local council** deals with:

- **noise nuisance** – by asking you to keep a log of incidents sound equipment can be seized from persistent offenders
- **drinking in designated public areas** by setting up alcohol control zones to stop offenders
- **dog fouling** and can fine anyone not clearing up after their dog
- **abandoned vehicles** by arranging for them to be removed
- **vehicles parked on yellow lines or school markings, in permit-only areas, bus lanes or disabled bays** and can fine drivers contravening parking regulations.
- **littering, fly-tipping and illegal waste carriers** and can arrange for rubbish to be cleared away
- **graffiti and fly-posting** and can arrange for its removal.

Kent Police deals with:

- **rowdy, drunken or violent behaviour** and anyone likely to cause danger to themselves or others
- **alcohol offences** including people who are drunk, drinking in public, drinking underage or supplying/selling alcohol to minors – they can also seize and dispose of alcohol
- **dangerous dogs**
- **nuisance and off-road vehicles** in partnership with other agencies, and will ask you to make a log of incidents, including registration numbers and descriptions of people or vehicles involved

- fly-tipping **in progress**
- graffiti in **progress**
- **criminal damage or vandalism**
- **dangerous or obstructive parking**, and parking that prevents access for emergency vehicles
- **threatening behaviour, intimidation or harassment**, including domestic abuse, and work with other agencies to ensure victims and offenders can access support services
- **drug-related crimes** including drug use and supply, and work with agencies that can rehabilitate drug users and integrate them back into the community
- **lewd or indecent behaviour** and can take enforcement action against those involved
- **begging** by moving people on or signposting them to organisations who offer help and support
- **prostitution and kerb-crawling**
- **anyone using fireworks in public in a dangerous or intimidating way**
- **anyone making hoax calls to the emergency services** which slows down the response to genuine calls for help.

The **DVLA** deals with:

- **untaxed vehicles** and works with councils and the police to remove untaxed vehicles from the streets.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service deals with:

- **fires in progress** – to report a fire in progress call 999, however if you know the details of someone who has deliberately caused a fire, report it to the police by calling 101 or call Kent Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

What action can be taken?

There are a number of powers available to deal with anti-social behaviour:

- **Restorative practice** – an opportunity for victims and offenders to discuss an offence, the affect it has had on others, and agree a resolution to repair the harm caused.
- **Acceptable Behaviour Agreements (ABAs)** – agreements signed by those causing anti-social behaviour. If an individual breaches the terms of their ABA it could be used as evidence in other official orders such as an anti-social behaviour order or criminal prosecution.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs)** – court orders to stop persistent nuisance behaviour for anyone aged 10 and over. Breaching an ASBO could lead to up to five years in prison, a fine of up to £5,000 or other penalties.
- **Community Payback** – a scheme where offenders carry out unpaid work in the community for the crimes they have committed, rather than being sent to prison.
- **Noise nuisance enforcement** – environmental health departments can issue warning notices to licensed or residential properties to stop nuisance noise. If ignored, further action can be taken including fines, court action and the closure of premises.
- **Alcohol control zones** – to prevent people drinking alcohol in a street or public space. People breaching the zone can have their alcohol seized and be fined or arrested.
- **Dispersal orders** – set up to move groups of people away from specific areas for up to 24 hours if they are believed to be causing, or likely to cause, a nuisance to others. Young people aged 16 or under can be escorted home.